

QUORUM BROKEN; MEMBERS LEAVE

Two Houses Will Meet Again To-day, But Law-Making Session Ends.

OYSTER QUESTION COMES UP AGAIN

Eleven Million Dollars Appropriated Freely but Judiciously—Many Good Bills Enacted and Omissions Are Criticized.

BY LEWIS H. MACHEN.

THINGS were dead at the Capitol yesterday, after the fitful fever of the day before. The Senate had a bare quorum, and whenever the Richmond Torrens bill came up there was a conspicuous absence of sufficient number of Senators to prevent a vote. Thus failed a measure which has for several sessions been urged with so much zeal and tenacity. The chief order of the day was vacating the chair, and early in the afternoon most of the Senators took their leave. The only matter which was concurred in by the House joint resolution providing for the formulation of the procedure in the Blackstone case when the Legislature convenes on the 25th.

In the House the attendance was so slim that only by long pauses at the roll call and the fraying of the lobbies and corridors could a voting quorum be secured. A few Senate bills were acted upon and some resolutions were adopted.

Oyster Question, Again.

The ever-present oyster question bobbed up again in a resolution of the Delegate from Campbell for a tour of inspection, investigation and reflection for the collection of oyster shells and oyster matters by a joint committee of eight legislators, all but two to be selected, as far as possible, on account of their ignorance of those matters. The Senate did not act upon the resolution, but the sentiment among the few Senators who remained was that it would turn out to be a junket, and would probably be the occasion of more pleasure to the members of the committee than of profit to the State. It was conceded on all sides that a cruise in the waters of the Chesapeake and its tributaries, under the charge of a committee of Fisheries and with alternate entertainments by the tongs and the planters would fill the committee full of the subjects under investigation and leave tender and imperishable memories.

Body questions that the Campbell delegate is high man in oyster, and is actuated by patriotic motives, but it is thought that the best way to accomplish the end he has in view would be for him to secure the cooperation of some member of the Senate as sincere and forceful as himself, and for the two to study the documents of the Virginia authorities and those of other States and of the United States on the subject, as well as all legislation dealing with it. Then they should visit the tidewater section of Maryland and Virginia en passant, if possible, and collect specimens of oyster shells. The question at first hand from every available source and compile it carefully and succinctly for the use of the General Assembly. A bill could then be drawn along scientific and practical lines, and advocates of such proposed passage. Similar oyster matters in regard to oysters and roads has resulted in advanced legislation in recent sessions, and there appears to be no good reason why it would not be equally successful in fish and oyster matters.

Quorum Already Broken.

To-day will witness the disappearance of quorum from both branches of the General Assembly. It has been the hardest worked body that has sat in the legislative halls of this State.

The Lieutenant-Governor and the Speaker of the House have presided in a manner worthy of all praise, with entire fidelity and with an earnest purpose to expedite the business of the two bodies, which, though beset by distractions and confronted by a multitude of problems, limited as to time, and shackled by a cumbersome constitutional procedure, has yet, by persistent diligence, accomplished wonders. It has distributed eleven millions of the State's money, if somewhat slowly, still, in the main judiciously. For roads, for education and for pensions the utmost aid has been provided. Public health and public morals have been greatly strengthened by new statutes. Fees and salaries have been considerably increased, and while all may not be commended, yet the general

(Continued on Third Page.)

TWO BROTHERS KILLED

Double Tragedy as Result of Dispute Over Pair of Rubber Boots.

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 11.—There was a double tragedy at Dill, W. Va., on the line of the Western Maryland Railroad, in which two brothers were killed to-day. In a quarrel over a pair of rubber boots.

The quarrel started in a camp occupied by the two brothers and a third man, the dead are Ross and Dominique Moserock. One of the men who did the shooting claimed the boots. The Moserocks said the boots belonged to them. A duel started with the result stated. The other three men fled to the mountains. As soon as the murder was discovered a posse started in pursuit, but at last report the escaped men had not been captured.

HARGIS TRIAL GOES OVER

On Affidavits Filed Case Continued Until the Next Term of Court.

JACKSON, Ky., March 11.—Upon affidavits filed by the defendants, the case against Beech Hargis for the murder of his father, Judge James Hargis, the federal grand jury returned a bill of indictment for the 10th day of the next term of court.

Affidavits filed contained the statements that Judge J. C. Bachone, one of the attorneys for the defense, was not physically able to conduct the trial and that Floyd Day, an uncle of the young man, was absent from the city.

RYAN ON THE TRUST

Explains Why the Consolidated Was Formed and Then All Merged.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Thomas F. Ryan was a witness to-day in the hearing in the government's suit against the Imperial Tobacco Company. He said he was formerly a director of the American Tobacco Company. The Consolidated Tobacco Company, he said, was organized to raise necessary capital to prosecute the business in England, which required about \$10,000,000. He said that \$25,000,000 was raised by members of a syndicate who took common stock of Consolidated Tobacco Company therefor at par without any bonus regarding the merger.

Mr. Ryan said he was not a stockholder of either the Imperial or the British-American Tobacco Company and had no interest in either. He said there was no intention of keeping secret any contracts between the companies which were made in the whole matter was purely a business deal, he said, and did not tend toward restraint of trade so far as he knew.

He said the foundation of the contracts whereby the Imperial Tobacco Company was to take over the interests of the American Tobacco Company in England was laid at a conference he had with James B. Duke and William W. Fuller in England in 1902. The actual drawing up of the contract, he said, was left with Mr. Duke and Mr. Fuller. He denied that the contracts contained any stipulation restricting the sale of tobacco in the purchases of tobacco in the United States.

Mr. Ryan's testimony was finished, William B. Duke, brother of James B. Duke, president of the American Tobacco Company, testified that he sold out the American Tobacco Company and Company in 1903 because of his father's advanced years, and because the business had grown unwieldy. There was no intention to create a monopoly, Mr. Duke declared, at the time of the formation of the American Tobacco Company. His testimony of W. W. Fuller, the chief counsel of the American Tobacco Company, practically concluded the case for the defense.

After concluding details of the company's reorganization, adjournment was taken until to-morrow.

FLEET NEARING MAGDALENA

Expected to Arrive This Evening—All in Good Condition.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., March 11.—The American battleship fleet, under command of Rear Admiral C. G. Evans, is tonight about 200 miles south of Magdalena Bay, Lower California, and should put into that harbor about midnight.

No reports of the arrival will be available, probably until some time to-morrow night or Friday morning. The fleet, which is the largest ever assembled in the Pacific, is equipped with the strongest instrument, has never been able to communicate with a vessel at Magdalena Bay until after the setting of the sun. The best work is done after midnight. It is explained that light waves overcome the other impediments of the wireless system in long distance communication. Magdalena Bay is 620 miles in an air line from San Diego.

The Point Loma wireless station, which is just across an arm of the bay from this city, was in communication with the fleet yesterday. The ships said to be maintaining a speed of a half-knot, and this, it is estimated, would bring them late to-night within 200 miles of Magdalena Bay. The men of the battleship crew probably will have a day or two of rest after the long run from Callao, Peru, which was left on February 23rd, before they enter the harbor.

Admiral Evans has command of the fleet, which includes the battleships, Connecticut, Kansas, Vermont and Louisiana. Admiral Emory is in command of the second division, comprised of the battleships, Alabama, Texas, Illinois and Virginia. Admiral C. M. Thomas is commander of the third division. His flagship is the Minnesota, and he has in his division the battleships, Ohio, Maine and Missouri. The fourth division is commanded by Rear-Admiral Sperry, whose flagship is the Oregon. The division includes the battleships, Kentucky and Kearsarge complete the command.

SAVED BY CLEVER TRICK

Tarheel Neko Escapes from White Caps in Wife's Dress.

RALEIGH, N. C., March 11.—Dressed up in some of his wife's clothes, and claiming to be a woman visiting on a pleasure trip, a white-headed, black-negro farmer, was allowed to pass through a line of infuriated illicit distillers, who surrounded his house last night to take revenge on him for his having, as they believed, revealed to revenue officers the location of a block-ading house in the neighborhood. Gill had received a note with skull and bones, coffin and other gruesome symbols, warning him that he must leave the neighborhood or face death. He had ignored the note, and the "White Cappers" came to great numbers of them, and began firing on the house. At first Gill put out the fire and hid up the chimney. Later, however, his wife appealed to the marauders through the strongly barricaded door to at least let her and the child and also another woman, she said, pass out in safety. This they consented to do, vowing their intention to burn the house thereafter, with her husband in it. Gill then dressed in some of his wife's clothes, and the three women went out. The house was riddled with bullets, but not burned. Gill drove twenty miles through the country to-day to Raleigh and reported the case to the State and United States officials. The case is to be rigidly investigated. Gill has a mother and sister living here.

YOUNG GIRL PLAYS GHOST

Frightens Watchman Out of His Wits, Expelled and Her People Notified.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Magistrate Stern, in Bronx Police Court to-day, removed Mary Mullen, a pretty eighteen-year-old girl, to the court prison, pending instruction from her parents, who reside in Richmond, as to her disposal.

She was arrested last night in company with Emma Vernon, another eighteen-year-old girl, while skylarking in the laundry of a house on the lower East, at Two Hundred and Forty-fourth Street and Borden Avenue. Both girls, at Two Hundred and Forty-fourth Street and Borden Avenue, were hiding under a table, frightened the night watchman so badly that he fled the premises, yelling that ghosts were in the house. This escapade Mary was expelled from the laundry. Superintendent Lavinia C. Montgomery, who turned her over to the police, said that Mary Mullen, a native of Richmond, was expelled from the laundry, and set for the 10th day of the next term of court.

Affidavits filed contained the statements that Judge J. C. Bachone, one of the attorneys for the defense, was not physically able to conduct the trial and that Floyd Day, an uncle of the young man, was absent from the city.

BLACKSTONE NOT TO QUIT BENCH

"Nothing But Death or Removal Will Cause Me to Resign," Says Judge.

STRONG DENIAL OF GROUNDLESS REPORT

Declares That He Will Fight Every Attempt to Remove Him—Report Apparently Spread by Politicians for a Purpose.

"Your wire just received. Am in bed under treatment by Dr. Aylett. Have grip; but am fast improving. Will never resign. Nothing but death or removal will cause me to quit bench. I am positively, in every sense, a man of honor. Thank you for your courtesy."

"J. W. G. BLACKSTONE."

REPLYING to an inquiry from The Times-Dispatch Judge Blackstone sent the above message yesterday, reiterating his oft-repeated determination not to resign, and setting at rest the story sent out from Richmond and printed in the afternoon papers yesterday that he would surely retire before March 25th, and very probably to-day.

No one who was familiar with the situation had the remotest idea that the accused Judge was contemplating such a step, even after the wide currency which the report was given, though it was positively stated that he would resign. The same information was given to a representative of The Times-Dispatch Tuesday night, but it was quickly asserted by close friends of Judge Blackstone, who were in the city, that he would not retire in the face of a Gatling gun.

Before leaving his home Judge Blackstone made practically the same statement to a representative of this paper, and those who know him well fully understand that he is anything but a quitter, and that there are few men in the State who are possessed of stronger determination.

Was Not Authorized.

Of course, the story was circulated and given credence, and it was well founded, and had its origin nowhere within the circle of Judge Blackstone's close friends.

The accused jurist lies ill at a hospital in Newport News, but he was quick to correct this false impression, and he promptly repudiated the message of The Times-Dispatch, but had in the meantime wired Senator Ben T. Gunter, of Accomac, who was still in the city, that he had no idea of resigning; that his physical condition was improving, and that he was in a better position from a legal standpoint to fight removal than at any time since the proceedings were instituted against him.

He added that he expected to appear here on March 25th and fight the matter to a finish.

Summers, concerning Judge Blackstone's probable resignation have been floating about from time to time since the Committee for Courts of Justice recommended his removal, but the publications in Norfolk, Washington, Lynchburg, Baltimore, Richmond and other papers yesterday morning, that the proposition had been positively and emphatically stated.

Will Not Be Revived.

Judge Blackstone has been quick to deny all the stories concerning his retirement under fire, and it is likely that in view of his last utterances on the subject they will not soon be revived. There are those in close touch with the jurist, who say that the belief that these rumors were started for political purposes, and to afford vantage ground to some one who may desire to succeed him.

It is understood that in the event of Judge Blackstone's removal from the bench there will probably be three candidates before the Legislature for the place. They will be Hon. N. B. Wescott, of Accomac, and Mr. Clarence W. Robinson, of Newport News, and probably Mr. Otto F. Meers, of Northampton. Mr. Wescott's friends claim almost the entire bar of Accomac and the four counties, pleaded guilty in Elizabeth City, while Mr. Meers, if he runs, will have Northampton. Mr. Robinson's main strength will most likely be in Newport News. He is Commonwealth's attorney of his city and a lawyer of strength and popularity. Mr. Meers is also a lawyer of ability, and is popular with his people.

Mr. Wescott was a leader in the Constitutional Convention, and is looked upon as one of the strongest men in his profession on the Eastern Shore. When the race develops in earnest, it is likely that there may be other candidates.

WILL INDICT MANY LIQUOR MEN

Federal Grand Jury After Them—Fines and Jail Penalties.

LYNCHBURG, VA., March 11.—The federal grand jury put in another hard day yesterday, investigating violations of the revenue laws. Indictments were returned against the following: Henry Garnet, of Halifax county, retailing liquor without a license; Frazier Martin and Posa Martin, of Roanoke county, wholesaling liquor without a license; J. T. Thomas, of Franklin county, wholesaling liquor without a license. At the morning session James Layne, Henry Davis, George Martin, Thomas Oats, Will Johnson and George Honaker, all of Wise county, pleaded guilty to charges of retailing liquor without licenses, and were fined \$100 and given thirty days in jail each.

George Carter and Cliff Cavil, of Augusta county, pleaded guilty to the charge of tampering with a mail box on a rural route leading out of Greenville, and were given thirty days in jail.

The morning session to-night held a conference with the witnesses in the Pinkney Ayres case, which is to be held for trial in the Federal District Court here to-morrow. Fully fifty witnesses have been summoned for the government.

WAR ON STOCK GAMBLING

President Directs Investigation, Which May Furnish Basis for Legislation.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—President Roosevelt has directed Herbert Knox Smith, of the Bureau of Corporations, to investigate the methods of stock trading, with a view to furnishing a basis of possible future legislation regulating such practices. The difficulty is recognized of attempting Federal regulation of the transfer of stocks, which will operate to curtail purely gambling contracts and at the same time work no hindrance to legitimate transfers, and it is announced to be for the purpose of proceeding on sound principles that the investigation is being made. President Roosevelt has declared himself to be decidedly in favor of eliminating stock gambling.

For several months the President has been in receipt, from time to time, of communications from various interested persons, urging him to lend his influence to secure the enactment of national legislation prohibiting the use of telegraph or telephone wires and the United States mails for the transmission of quotations on stocks and commodities for the purpose of speculation. The President has been particularly interested in the matter, and has directed Mr. Smith, Commissioner of Corporations, these subjects, and subsequently submitted some of them to Secretary Straus, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, with a request that Commissioner Smith make a general inquiry into the practicability of attempting to have such legislation enacted. In a memorandum transmitting the matter to Commissioner Smith, Secretary Straus requested him to investigate the subject with special reference to the enactment of such laws in other countries, and to make a report for his information. It is not the purpose of Secretary Straus or Commissioner Smith to make any general investigation of stock transactions. The inquiry will be confined to the feasibility of enacting such laws to control the operations of "bucket shops."

HORSE BALKED IN MUD

But Friend Came to Rescue, Trip Was Made and Knot Tied.

DANVILLE, VA., March 11.—The old adage that love laughs at locks was again demonstrated yesterday, when a young farmer of this county, baffled by a stubborn horse, took him to the city. The horse, a bay, named "Old Tom," and after a strenuous ride with a balky horse over the muddy roads between Danville and Lynchburg, made her his wife. The contracting parties in this romance were Miss Annie Rosser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rosser, and a young man named Sandy, a young resident of sandy level, Pittsylvania county.

Mr. Jacobs left his home early yesterday morning, and by engagement met his wife at the city. They came to Danville on a train and after engaging a buggy started for the famous Grand Hotel. Arriving at the hotel, the buggy became stuck in the mud, and all efforts to make the horse move proved futile. Mr. Jacobs, who was a stranger in the city, was unable to get the horse out after they had alighted and walked a considerable distance and gave them to Pelham, where the nuptial knot was tied by justice of the Peace C. J. Wright.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs passed through this city last night en route to Sandy and they will make their future home.

PISTOL BATTLE IN DARK

Two Men Fatally and a Third Slightly Wounded in a Fierce Duel.

SHAWNEE, OKLA., March 11.—As a result of a pistol battle in a darkened bedroom in the home in Townsley City, three men were shot, two of whom are expected to die, and further bloodshed was prevented by the heroism of a third man.

Charles Nichols and Joe McClutcha were arrested. McClutcha and Thomas Nichols are fatally wounded and William McClutcha is slightly wounded. At a country dance near Kiowa last night an altercation occurred between members of the McClutcha and Nichols families. Nichols went home, accompanied by a friend. Some time after retiring Nichols and his friend were aroused by some one entering the room. Nichols and his friend went to the door, and Nichols sprang between two of the men. She knocked aside one weapon and probably saved her brother's life.

KING, BROKER, NOT FOUND

Warrant Issued, Charging Embezzlement, But It Is Not Served.

BOSTON, MASS., March 11.—The crisis was reached to-day in the affairs of C. H. King, the financial broker of Boston. Hearing urgent appeals that are pouring from all over the country, for those who claim to have suffered, Judge Boston, in the Superior Court, to-day issued a warrant for King's arrest, on the charge of embezzlement. The warrant was searched all day for King, but he was not found, and no definite information as to his present whereabouts has been secured.

It is said that King a few weeks ago, after his affairs were placed in the hands of trustees, mortgaged his home in Chestnut Hill, for \$15,000, and it is probable that this charge will also be brought against him. Charles A. MacDonough, 15 Tremont Street, Boston, who is an investor of small investors, who claim to have paid money to King for stocks which, he claims, they have never received.

ROOSEVELT FEELS PANIC

Has His Fortune in Railroad and Other Securities Which Have Fallen.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11.—Attorney-General Bonaparte is not the only member of the administration who has been hit by the financial panic. President Roosevelt has felt the effect. The President hasn't lost any money in bank failures, so far as can be ascertained, and he hasn't any farms except the one at Oyster Bay. The President's money, what there is of it, is invested in railroad securities. All of these have declined with the rest of the market. As they were not bought on margin, but as investments, Mr. Roosevelt has not had to sacrifice any of them yet. But every body of the Big Stick—if that is the force that has been driving the President's own holdings down a notch.

While there has not yet been any actual decrease in income, it is not in the present state of the country's business dividends can be kept up to those of prosperous years.

WEATHER

Rain To-day.

KILLS HERSELF AND THEN HERSELF

Miss Weed, Suffering From Melancholia, Shoots Miss Hardee and Suicides.

TRAGEDY OF EARLY MORN IN GIRLS' SCHOOL

Overwork in Establishing the Laurens School Caused Breakdown of Miss Weed, Who Was Sent to Sanitarium, from Which She Escaped.

BOSTON, MASS., March 11.—Suffering from melancholia, due to overwork, Miss Sarah Chamberlain Weed, of Philadelphia, shot and killed Miss Elizabeth Bailey Hardee, of No 21 East Greenwich Street, Savannah, Ga., and then committed suicide at the Laurens School for Girls to-day. The Laurens School was established last fall by Miss Hardee and Miss Weed. On October 1st, the day the school opened, Miss Weed broke down as a result of overwork, and was committed to a sanitarium in order to be treated for nervous prostration.

Last night Miss Weed escaped from the sanitarium and made her way to the school. She appeared to be badly deranged mentally. A fruitless attempt was made to communicate with the authorities of the sanitarium, and at length Miss Hardee succeeded in getting Miss Weed to the beach in Miss Hardee's chamber on the third floor of the school building. Miss Hardee retired with Miss Weed.

Both women were awakened by Mrs. Page about 6 A. M., and notified that they must get up if they were to catch the 7:35 train, on which Miss Weed was to be taken back to West Newton. Mrs. Page then left them, and a few moments later the shooting occurred. Mrs. Page thinks the mention of returning to the sanitarium must have excited and angered Miss Weed, and induced the shooting.

From the nature of the wounds Medical Examiner Stedman decided that Miss Weed had committed suicide by shooting herself through the right temple, after having shot Miss Hardee through the base of the brain.

Friends at Wellesly.

Both women were about thirty-two years of age, and they had been friends since childhood. Miss Hardee received her diploma in 1894, while Miss Weed received hers a year later. Miss Hardee was an instructor in mathematics at Wellesly in 1899 and 1900, and since that time she has been teaching in various sections of the country. Last summer the two women decided to open a boarding school for girls on Audubon Road, in the Fenway district. On October 1st, the day which the Laurens School was to open, Miss Weed broke down as a result of overwork, and was taken to the sanitarium in West Newton, where she had since been under treatment. While at the sanitarium Miss Weed had been subjected to severe attacks of melancholia.

Escaping last night she made her way to Laurens School, where Miss Hardee volunteered to care for her during the night.

Miss Weed behaved in a peculiar manner according to the teachers, wandering aimlessly about the school building, and occasionally making some strange or incoherent remark.

At length Miss Hardee persuaded Miss Weed to retire, and the demented woman followed her to her own chamber on the third floor of the school.

The pupils at the school, about forty in number, are the daughters of wealthy parents from all sections of the country.

Two Accomplished Women.

Miss Hardee, in addition to her school work, had taken a great interest in settlement work in this city, especially among the Italians in the north end. Ever since she had been a student in college, she had been prominent in many branches and extremely popular.

Miss Weed's work since leaving college had been confined almost entirely to teaching. While in the sanitarium she had been suffering from nervous prostration, but never appeared to have any animosity against any of her friends.

Mother Too Ill to Be Told.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., March 11.—Mrs. Silvia M. Weed, the mother of Miss Sarah Chamberlain Weed, lives at 110 West Willow Grove Avenue, Chestnut Hill, a fashionable suburb of Philadelphia, with a daughter and son, Taylor, an uncle of the dead woman.

The family did not know of the tragedy until shown an Associated Press dispatch from Boston, and it was decided not to inform the mother, who is a widow and is ill in bed, until official confirmation shall have been received from a sister of the dead woman, who is librarian at Wellesly College.

The sad intelligence was first imparted to Miss Weed by her daughter, who is living with the mother. This sister said the family knew that Miss Sarah Weed was ill in New England, but they did not believe it, and did not believe her condition was as serious as it must have been for her to commit such a deed.

Miss Weed had visited Savannah and was known to almost all of Miss Hardee's friends.

Daughter of an Attorney.

SAVANNAH, GA., March 11.—Miss Hardee, who was killed at Boston to-day, was a daughter of William P. Hardee, an attorney of this city. Her brother, Cosmo Hardee, left for Boston to-day.

Miss Weed had visited Savannah and was known to almost all of Miss Hardee's friends.

JURY FOR HITCHCOCK TRIAL IS NOT YET COMPLETE

NEW YORK, March 11.—The trial of Raymond Hitchcock, the comedian, was continued in the Supreme Court to-day. The work of selecting a jury continued slowly, and only eleven jurors had been selected when court adjourned until to-morrow. Mrs. Hitchcock, the defendant's wife, who with all other spectators, was debarred from the courtroom yesterday, was permitted to enter the room to-day.

SERVED ON THAW'S MOTHER

She Technically the Defendant in Divorce Proceedings.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Mrs. William Copley Thaw was served here to-day with papers in which she is made a co-defendant with her son, Harry K. Thaw, in the action instituted by the latter's wife, Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, to annul their marriage. As Harry Thaw is an inmate of an asylum he is in the eyes of the law legally dead, and the next kin becomes technically the actual defendant in the case. An attempt was also made this evening to serve Harry Thaw at Brownsville, by a messenger who was admitted to the asylum. Late to-night, however, it was made known that owing to a technicality the service was not completed. Dr. Robert Lamb, superintendent of the institution, stating that the legal guidelines must also be served, it was explained. Learning this Thaw refused to accept service, and the process-server returned to New York, where another set of papers will be prepared and service made upon Dr. Lamb and Thaw to-morrow. It is possible that Dr. Lamb will be substituted for Mrs. William Thaw as co-defendant.

Daniel O'Reilly, counsel for Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, explained that Thaw's mother was made a co-defendant because, being the next of kin, she is technically the real defendant. The law presumes her son to be insane, and, therefore, legally dead. Mrs. Evelyn Thaw called at Mr. O'Reilly's office to-day and signed the papers in the case. As she left the office Mrs. Thaw was asked whether she would subsequently make public the cause of the estrangement which led to the suit. She replied: "The public will never know."

Lawyer O'Reilly said that he did not anticipate any trouble in obtaining the defendant's counsel fees and alimony. A Russell Peabody, counsel for Thaw, said: "It will not be necessary for Evelyn to go to the courts in order to get counsel fees and alimony while the suit is pending. She has been getting money from me to pay her expenses while Harry is confined, and this will be continued during the trial. I am confident that the court will grant the case upon the instructions from my client, and shall represent him personally in the defense."

That the defense by Harry Thaw of his wife's suit for annulment of their marriage will be only of a formal nature was admitted to-day by his lawyer, Russell A. Peabody. His answers to questions also gave the conclusion that the Thaws had received \$10,000 cash and an annuity of \$15,000. Persons well informed as to the affairs of the Thaws said that Mrs. Harry Thaw has been in receipt of \$10,000 a year, and that she contemplates no reduction in her present expenditures. When informed of the action taken by the defense, Mrs. Thaw was indignantly moaned: "Oh I love her, I love her, and I cannot give her up. I know she will withdraw the suit if I can only get her back. I'll forgive everything, and when I get out we will go off together and be happy again."

CHARGED WITH SWINDLING

Two Men and Pretty Woman from Virginia Under Charge.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Accused of implication in a \$50,000 swindling scheme, two men and a woman were arrested to-day at the Hotel Seville, as the culmination of a chase, Federal officials say, that extended through half a dozen different States and lasted for as many months.

The prisoners were taken under United States warrants, in the hands of Marshal Henkel, and are recorded as Theodore Horner, forty-seven years old, of Phoebus, Va., and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Connor. The woman, the authorities say, is better known as "Frances McLean," while the police, who were called into the case, have declared they believe O'Connor to be the same O'Connor who is at present under indictment for having shot "Big Bill" Henning about a year ago.

O'Connor says he is a broker, and declares the business he and his wife have engaged in is perfectly legitimate. Until last November they conducted a business which has been called a "get-rich-quick scheme" by the police at No. 2 Wall Street.

Horner a Phoebus Man.

A long distance phone message received by The Times-Dispatch at 2:30 to-day from New York City, says that Theodore Horner is a saloon-keeper at 333 Mallory Street, Phoebus, Va., and his wife, Mrs. Horner, is a woman who wears a good deal of jewelry. Mrs. Horner, a sister of Mrs. Horner, who was arrested yesterday afternoon from Horner saying that they had been arrested, but that there was nothing in the case, and it was a mistake. Horner, who is not known in Phoebus, so far as could be learned.

OKLAHOMA FOR TAFT

Convention Instructs Delegates to Vote For Any Proposition Favorable to Him.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., March 11.—Instructing them to "vote for any proposition favorable to the candidacy of William H. Taft for the presidency," the Republican State Convention of Oklahoma, held at the Hotel Seville, this morning, elected delegates-at-large to the Chicago Convention. Congressmen Bird S. McGuire, of Pawnee; Dennis T. Flynn, of Oklahoma City; Patrick Dore, of Westville; and J. A. Harris, of Vagabond, were elected delegates-at-large. William H. Bush, of McAlester, and J. C. Roberts, of Enid, were nominated for electors-at-large. Cash Cade, of Muskogee, was re-elected national committeeman.

The resolutions indorse President Roosevelt's administration, condemn the Democratic State Convention, and recommend reduction of the representation in Congress and in the electoral college of States which disfranchise negroes.

A resolution pledging the party to an early resubmission of the prohibition question was overwhelmingly defeated.

MADAME GOULD SAILS

She Leaves For America With Her Children—De Sagan May Be Along.

CHERBOURG, March 11.—Mme. Anna Gould, accompanied by her three children, sailed to-day on the White Star York. She had originally booked passage on the North German Lloyd steamer ship Kronprinz Wilhelm, but cancelled her engagement, expecting to put off her departure for a few days. At the last moment the steamers were engaged for her on the Adriatic. She came to Cherbourg by automobile.

De Sagan Gets Passport.

PARIS, March 11.—It is reported here that Prince Helle de Sagan also sailed to-day for the United States, in confirmation of this is lacking. It is known, however, that he took out a passport for America last Monday, which is for a passport is one of the best evidences of identity for purposes of legal documents.

SAV THE SOLDIERS DID THE SHOOTING

This is the Final Report of Committee, Though Not All Were Involved.

ACTION MAY AFFECT VOTES OF THE NEGROES

Suggestion That Special Message of President, Sent in With Reports, May Allay Hostility of the Blacks Toward the Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Reports from the Committee on Military Affairs were presented to the Senate to-day in regard to the investigation of the shooting at Brownsville, Texas, which resulted in the discharge without honor of three companies of negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry. At the same time a message was received from the President calling attention to the fact that the testimony of the committee is not sufficient to sustain his position in discharging the negro soldiers. He recommends extension of the time for re-enlistment of the discharged men who might be found not to fall within the terms of the order. There were four reports from the committee, the majority being signed by Senators Warren, Lodge, Warner, Dupont, Tallaferra, Foster, Overman, Frazier and McCreary. A minority report was signed by Senators Foraker, Scott, Bulkeley and Hemenway.

In Good Politics.

The message of President Roosevelt accomplished two purposes. It was good politics, in so far as it gave the President opportunity to square himself with the negroes, whose sympathy he had alienated by his course towards the battalion of negro soldiers, and it also was a card well played in anticipating Senator Foraker's report finding the negroes guilty, and before the general election, in putting the President in line with the majority of the committee who recommended that the ex-soldiers would make affidavit to their innocence should be allowed to re-enlist.

The message accentuated the back-down of the President, produced an angry reaction, and the opposition to Taft aroused among the negroes of the South, and other States where the negroes vote decides the election.

Discussed With Interest.

The reading of the President's message and the several reports called forth the undivided attention of the Senate. Senator Culberson inquired why legislation was necessary to permit the President to reinstate the soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and Mr. Warner, chairman of the committee, replied that the President had no authority to restore them with all rights and privileges after ninety days, and that for that purpose the proposed legislation would have to be enacted.

Mr. Tillman said he wanted all the reports, and the President's message printed in a single volume.

"I also want in the document," said Mr. Tillman, "the message of the President discharging these men, and then his message taking it back. I want the entire report, so it can be sent out for the benefit of the 'niggers' of the country."

Bill to Reinstatement Them.

Senator Bailey inquired whether the committee had prepared a bill to reinstate the discharged soldiers, and referred to the President's recommendation and to the recommendation of several members of the Committee for Legislation to Restore the Col